

Curiosity outperforms regulations or rules

Yoshiyasu Takefuji

Victor J. Dzau et al. wrote an article entitled “Wake-up call from Hong Kong” (1). Reaching consensus on a set of research guidelines among researchers does not prevent experimenting human genome editing. Building upon the work done at recent international summits and the guidance provided by numerous organizations does not stop human genome editing in the near future. Since human curiosity outperforms regulations or rules, researchers can always experiment human genome editing. The stronger rules, the more human genome editing will go underground. Human innocent curiosity has duality. The innocent curiosity can create a monster called Frankenstein. We must understand that we live in a fragile society where the nature of Frankenstein can be determined not by rules or regulations but by the technology users. We must investigate scientifically how to control human curiosity if possible.

References:

1. Victor J. Dzau et al., Wake-up call from Hong Kong, Science 14 Dec 2018: Vol. 362, Issue 6420, pp. 1215